

HAMPSHIRE CRIME.

SOLDIER CHARGED WITH CHILD MURDER.

The murder of little Elizabeth Lacey in a quiet country road in the hamlet of Blackmoor, between Selborne and Whitehill, Hampshire, has caused a sensation in Alton and neighbourhood, and excitement developed into a feeling of consternation when it became known that a soldier from a neighbouring camp, at Bordon, where over 4,000 men are stationed, had been arrested in connection with the crime. The tragedy was discovered by two boys named Bernard and Archibald Leighton, scholars at St. Paul's School, who were spending their Whitnitside holidays with their aunt at Whitehill. They were with their little sister, and had just passed a soldier in a red tunic, with the Prince of Wales feathers on the collar, when they saw the body of a little girl huddled up behind some bramble bushes in front of the high hedge-row. They hurried into Whitehill, two miles away, and informed the police. When Sgt. Clark arrived, he found the dead body of Elizabeth Lacey.

Covered with Blood.—With a number of injuries to the throat, close by, in the bushes, was her little doll's perambulator, with a red doll and a purple containing a lying near it. The body was removed to the grand-father's house, where it was seen by Dr. Ayres, of Lase. From information obtained two hours afterwards, the police went to the barracks of the 1st Welsh Regt., where they found Pte. Joseph Patrick Lacey in bed. Part of his uniform appeared to have been washed, and his belt newly pipe-clayed. He was taken to the police station at Whitehill and detained; and a subsequently Sgt. Reubens, of Alton, arrived and charged him. He was afterwards charged at the local police court. The charge against Lacey, who is 30 years old, was that of feloniously and wilfully murdering Elisha, Kate Lacey. The only witness called was Supt. Reubens, who said that on the previous day, when he received the information of the murder at Blackmoor, on the Earl of Selborne's estate, he went there, and saw on the left-hand side of the road, between the old brick kiln and Oak Manger-rd., a quantity of blood around a hedge. He went on to Pond's-end Cottage, the residence of Mr. Lacey, where he saw the body of the child. After Dr. Ayres had been sent to Whitehill Police Station, where he found Lacey detained, Lacey told him that he was on pass for Southampton from Sunday morning. He went to Hedleigh on Sunday, and in the evening to Passfield, where he stopped with a young man whom he did not know, and he did not know the house. On the following morning he went to the Royal Oak public-house, had a drink, went to one or two other houses, and then past the church to the barracks. The superintendent examined his uniform, and found blood stains. Subsequently he charged Lacey with the murder, and in reply he said, "I do not wish to say anything, and shall reserve my defence." On this evidence he was remanded.

Grandfather's Story.—Mr. Alfred Lacey, the grandfather of the child, in whose care she had been person to see the child Lacey alive, and that was within a few minutes of the murder. The girl was quite cheerful and happy when she left the farm, where she had been to return a small basket and to pay for some butter. It was rather unusual for her to come alone, although the distance from her home was not great. She usually had for her companion a neighbour's child named Pate. Mrs. May was sure that if the child had been accompanied by anyone on her way to the farm she would have told her. She gave her 2d. change, and she went off smiling, wheeling her little doll in her perambulator. Mrs. May heard no cry for help. (The purse when found had two pennies in it.) Several residents in the neighbourhood who had seen a soldier loitering near the scene within half an hour of the occurrence have been interviewed by the police.

The Inquest.

The inquest was subsequently formally opened. Elizabeth Ellen Lacey, the grandmother, was called to give evidence of identification. She is an aged woman and required the assistance of her husband and son as she walked from her cottage to the inquest. She stated that the girl was the daughter of her son, Walter Lewis Lacey, carman, of Basingstoke, and had lived with her. On Monday morning, about 11 o'clock, she sent the girl to Mrs. May's at Oakwood Farm to take two empty baskets.



ELIZABETH LACEY, THE VICTIM.
(Photo, Illustrations Bureau.)

The child went off with her doll's perambulator, and witness never saw her alive again.—The coroner informed the jury that he had ordered a post-mortem to be made, and the clothes of the man in custody would have to be submitted for analysis before the case could be completed.—The inquest was then adjourned.

The Victim's Funeral.

Hundreds of people attended the funeral of the little victim at Blackmoor Church. Three police officers preceded the cortege, which was followed by the parents and grandparents of the child, and a large number of villagers bearing wreaths of wild flowers. The school-children, who were drawn up in the playground to watch the procession go by, followed into the church, which was crowded, large numbers being unable to obtain admission. After the singing of the 23rd Psalm the vicar, Rev. Mr. Eyre, gave an address, which had taken place in their midst, he said this little lamb of his flock was a singularly innocent and winning member of it. School-children carried bunches of flowers, and, sobbing, dropped them into the

grave. The grandmother was led tottering away.

BRUTE WELL PUNISHED.

At North London J. A. Whitmarsh, 23, labourer, of Rupert-rd., Upper Holloway, was charged with assaulting Elizabeth Pepper, laundress, with whom he had lived for six years.—Prosecutor, whose right eye was badly cut, said that they were in Holloway-rd. when prisoner demanded money, which she refused to give. Prisoner then struck her in the face, and she became unconscious.—Prisoner called a witness, who corroborated prosecutor.—Asst.-gaoiler Allard said that in November last prisoner was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour for assaulting this woman.—Mr. Fordham, Whitmarsh, you are a brute. This time you will have three months' hard labour.

Scene of the Murder.—A reporter also saw Mrs. May at Upper Oakwood Farm, in Honey-lane, Blackmoor, where the murder was committed. She was the last year standing

WOMAN MURDERED.

HUSBAND'S TERRIBLE DEED.

A terrible murder was committed in Hull, at Shaftfield House, Tynest., the victim being Gertrude Siddall, wife of Tom Siddall, a bricklayer. Husband and wife had been separated three months, and the husband was summoned to appear at the police court, the man applying for a main-mo order. The man did not put in an appearance. Since leaving her husband Mrs. Siddall had been staying with a friend at the address given. The husband left work at five o'clock and went to the house where his wife was staying and asked for her by her Christian name. Mrs. Siddall went to the door, and the husband stepped into the passage, losing the door after him. Without warning, so it is alleged, he took a razor from his pocket, seized his wife, and drew the razor across her throat, cutting the windpipe through.

Tripped Her Up.

He then tripped the woman up and cut her across the nape of the neck, and she fell in the passage, bleeding profusely. An express motor-van happened to be near the house, and in this the woman was taken to the infirmary. Little more than five minutes elapsed on the journey, and she died about ten minutes after admission. Miss Felecy, of Shaftfield House, said when Siddall arrived at the house he appeared to be worse for drink, and when he saw his wife he said to her, "Give me a kiss." Only a few minutes after Mrs. Siddall was horrified to notice Siddall produce a razor and commence hacking at his wife's throat. There were two gashes, one six inches long cutting the windpipe. The victim, who was only 22, leaves two children, the eldest being 21 years old, and these were in the house. Prisoner was subsequently charged at the police court and remanded.

TRIAL OF A DOCTOR.

CLOUD OF WITNESSES AGAINST A WEALTHY MAN.

A trial has just commenced in Berlin which is expected to last over four days. The prisoner is Dr. Victor Riedel, and there are over 80 witnesses, among whom are girls, school-boys, and several clergymen and schoolmasters. Riedel, who is aged 38, is a wealthy man. He studied in Germany and America, and has been in all parts of the world. He is accused of having ruined scores of girls under age, causing two of them to commit suicide. He is also accused of investigating perjury. According to the custom prevailing lately, the case will be tried in camera. Counsel on both sides desired to have the reporters in court, and Riedel, who protests his complete innocence, also wished the Press to be present. The Public Prosecutor, however, insisted that everyone should be excluded save those concerned in the case.

JEWELS IN A HEDGE.

BOYS' DISCOVERY WHILE BIRD-NESTING.

A parcel of jewellery, believed to be part of the booty carried off by burglars from Great Yarmouth last week, was found by three boys in Epping Forest. The boys were looking for birds' nests in a part of the forest known as Monkswold, when they found in a hedge a parcel and part of a return ticket between Yarmouth and Liverpool. Opening the parcel, there was displayed before their eyes a quantity of jewellery, including watches, brooches, rings, tie-pins, and trinkets. The boys were proceeding to divide the treasure trove among themselves when a voice shouted "Drop that," but they gave no heed to the demand, and happy in their discovery they returned home to tell their parents of their good fortune. Next morning the police were communicated with, and the matter has since been placed in the hands of Scotland Yard. The finding of the railway ticket points to the jewellery being part of the £600 robbery at Yarmouth.

A MERRY-GO-ROUND.

MAGISTRATE'S COMMENT IN BIGAMY CASE.

Julia Ann Valentine, 50, of Liverpool-rd., Canning Town, was charged, on remand, at West Ham, with feloniously marrying Edk. Wm. Yarr, her husband, Wm. Jas. Harbut, being alive.—The first marriage was stated to have taken place at Southampton in August, 1877. Twenty years ago they separated, the children being left with the mother. Before the second marriage she described herself to Valentine as a widow, saying that her husband had been dead six months. Valentine found that the children's name was Harbut, and prisoner then explained that she was married to him, but that he had died. Believing her statement Valentine married prisoner at St. Augustine's Church, Fulham.—Mr. Daybell (prosecuting) said that he could not carry the case any further that day, because the witnesses to the first marriage could not be traced.—Mr. Stern (for the defence) said that prisoner had not seen her husband for 16 years, and he believed that the real husband had also married again 11 or 12 years ago.—Mr. Gilpin: A sort of merry-go-round. (Laughter.) I don't think the case is one to send to a jury, and she will be discharged.

MARY WELLS OF AGONY.

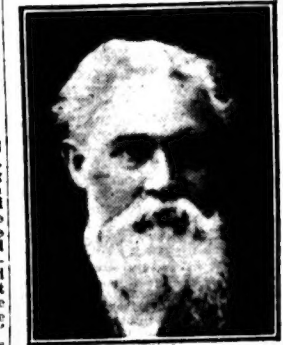
With Ecema on Arm and Legs—Could Scarcely Sleep for Months—Tried Many Treatments Without Benefit—Cured by Cuticura. "My trouble began with irritation on the legs and right arm, which developed into ecema. In a few weeks' time I was in great agony. I was prevented from attending to my work, and, although I tried remedies suggested by my friends, they were all used without any effect, and two doctors failed to do any good. One day I decided to make another attempt to get rid of my complaint and purchased a full set of Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Pills, and in ten days I found the irritation disappearing. I would not have believed it going for as long as I was able to sleep at night—something I had not been able to do for months—and in the course of another week there were unmistakable signs of the ecema being cured. I persevered with Cuticura, and in six weeks, using two supplies, I was cured. George Harrison, Post-terrace, 27, South Mifflin, Yorkshire, Eng. June 12, 1907. (Signed.)

The Shoemakers' Conference at Rushden rejected a proposal to superannuate incapacitated members of 30 years committed. She was the last year standing

HER GRACE OF BRUM.

AMAZING CAREER OF A PRETTY WOMAN.

An astonishing story is told of Mlle. Vera Abramoff, better known as the "Duchess of Birmingham," who, within the space of seven days, has risen from comparative poverty, to become one of the wealthiest women in the world, and by marrying last week the son of one of the oldest and noblest families in Russia, has changed her fictitious title of the "Duchess of Birmingham" for the genuine one of Princess Golukine.



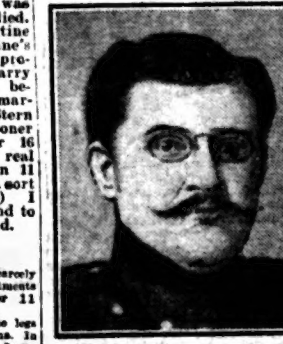
M. LAZARI BRODSKY.

This upheaval of the fortunes of one of the most remarkable women of modern times was due to the death of M. Lazari Brodsky, an elderly millionaire beet-sugar manufacturer, who bequeathed 50,000,000 roubles to the "Duchess of Birmingham." Born himself of poor parents, Brodsky earned his first kopeck by standing on his head for the amusement of some rich children, and for 40 years he celebrated the anniversary of this lucky day by giving a dinner party, after which he solemnly stood upon his head in the presence of his guests. By repute intensely mean, M. Brodsky 15 years ago, when first he met the "Duchess of Birmingham" (then a pretty beggar girl), remarked, "Your face is your fortune," and gave her a 1,000 rouble note for herself. The girl soon became one of the most worshipped and extravagant women in Russia, but her career was meteoric. Pulling out with M. Brodsky she suddenly disappeared, only to turn up at Samara, where, styling herself the "rightful Duchess of Birmingham," she spread herself broadcast among many humble families. While her stories were believed she



Mlle. Vera Abramoff.

borrowed large sums of money from persons in comparatively humble circumstances, the girl's pretty face and fascinating manner unconsciously the purse-strings of everyone whom she approached. Vera declared that she had just arrived from England, where the wealthy "Duke of Birmingham" had married her in London, and after three months had repudiated the marriage, on the ground that she was not a British subject. After flinging a £100 note in her face he had turned her out of his palace in Piccadilly, and forbidden her to enter it again. The pretty "Duchess's" pathetic tale moved all hearts, and loud denunciations were heard of the brutal English milord's order to contest the validity of the



PRINCE GOLUKINE.

marriage in the English courts, and altogether 20,000 roubles found their way into the pockets of the charming victim of British barbarism. Finally, a suspicious police official referred to the Almanach de Gotha, from which he learnt that "Birmingham" had no Duke. The "Duchess of Birmingham" was cast into prison, whence by the opportune death of her former millionaire admirer she has emerged one of the most coveted women in all Russia.

ACTRESS'S DEATH.

SENSATIONAL STORY AT THE INQUEST.

The inquest was resumed at St. Pancras Coroner's Court on the body of Constance Sarah Webb, aged 28, an actress, who died from internal injuries shortly after being admitted to the Royal Free Hospital. Deceased, a married lady, who, by reason of her profession, had not lived with her husband for a considerable time before her death, had been in two nursing homes, to the matrons of which she admitted she was envious. The post-mortem examination showed that an illegal operation had been performed, and the inquest was adjourned for further inquiries.—At the outset the coroner intimated that he intended to call only one or two witnesses, as

An Important Witness.

was unable to be there, and it was most essential that the sequence of events should be taken in their proper order.—Mr. Webb, husband of deceased, recalled, said that the actress, with his wife in Hammersmith Broadway on May 29 was accidental. He had no suspicion as to the condition of his wife. On the same day she visited his house and took away some clothes. So far as he knew she had not consulted any medical man.—Dr. Florence Elish, Willey, of the Royal Free Hospital, said deceased came to the hospital on June 1, and was seen by an operation for an internal trouble. Witness asked her some questions about an operation performed on her, but she refused to give the name of the doctor.

A Doctor Present.

Witness asked deceased if any doctor was present, and she said, "Yes," and referred to the doctor as "he," and spoke of "they," implying that more than one person was present. Deceased underwent the operation, but did not recover.—Dr. Cooper, of Carver-rd., who was called in by the proprietor of the house at which deceased was staying that she was suffering from nervous breakdown.—At this point the case was further adjourned.

MAKING DIAMONDS.

THE DIFFICULT TASK OF M. LEMOINE.

The diamond-making test in which M. Lemoine is engaged in Paris has reached a crucial stage. M. Lemoine has not yet made a diamond as big as a baby's head—as he promised—and the magistrate in charge of his case has allowed him a further delay of about 10 days to prove that he can make diamonds. On Tuesday afternoon M. Lemoine, happy and smiling as usual, made his appearance at the Palais de Justice, and rapped at the door of the magistrate's office. While he was with the magistrate his brother-in-law, M. d'User, told an interested little group of journalists that M. Lemoine had already made diamonds, and that he had one in his pocket. They asked to see it, and M. d'User produced from his pocket-book a little packet wrapped up in tissue paper which proved to contain an unmistakable diamond of about the size of a button. To show that it was real M. d'User scratched one of the windows of the Palais de Justice, but there was only his word for the statement that Lemoine made it two days previously in his laboratory at St. Denis.

THE FINAL ORDEAL.—The magistrate has asked Lemoine not to worry about the diamond which is to be the size of a baby's head, but has asked him to bring the powder with which he declares he can make one. This powder the magistrate will keep up and seal in the presence of M. Lemoine and Labori. Then the three experts appointed by the court will examine it, and they will be asked to make diamonds with it in comparative publicity either at the College of France or elsewhere. Lemoine's powder will be put into a furnace under his directions, but Lemoine will not be allowed to touch it. If a diamond be not the result Lemoine will have to go back to prison.

AN M.P.'S MOTOR-CAR.

CHAUFFEUR WHO OUGHT TO BE IN A LUNATIC ASYLUM.

"You ought to be in a lunatic asylum," said the magistrate at Brentford, when Henry Markham, chauffeur to the Hon. Ivor Guest, M.P., was again charged with driving at an excessive speed, and with failing to stop after an accident. In the accident to which the charge referred the motor-car dashed into a pony and trap at Hounslow, killed the pony, smashed the trap, and seriously hurt a Southall woman. Markham then fled, leaving the car derelict.—Two professional drivers gave evidence, and insisted that the man was driving at least 50 miles an hour.—Harry Beebridge said that he had been with Markham to Newbury. He was riding inside the car, and Mr. Sharpe (the magistrate): What right had you there? None, but I have been out with defendant before.—Magistrate: It is a great piece of impertinence. "I understand," said Mr. Baker, who prosecuted, "that the Hon. Ivor Guest had no knowledge that the car was out."—Mr. Sharpe described the case as the worst which had ever come before the court, and fined Markham £25 and 25 s. costs, and suspended his license for three years.

FATAL PRACTICAL JOKING.

Wm. Woodward and Magnus Johnson, apprentice die-sinkers, were remanded at West Hartlepool on a charge of wilfully causing the death of Harold Wilkinson, a fellow-apprentice. It was alleged that whilst Wilkinson was engaged at his bench prisoners conceived the idea of giving him a blast from a pneumatic tool. His clothing was burnt, and he was terribly injured, air from the instrument entering his body. He died an awful agony.

ROYALTY AND RAGS.

PRINCE OF WALES AND SLUM CHILDREN.

The Prince and Princess of Wales did a gracious thing on Thursday, when they went to Epping Forest to grace the opening excursion of the Fresh Air Fund with their presence. There were gathered in a great clearing in the grand old woodland a thousand and little children from the most squalid corners of Limehouse, Poplar, Stepney, Shadwell, and Wapping. Ill-clad, pale-faced, puny looking, every one of them, yet how they did romp through the sunny hours of their one little country holiday, and about their lusty cockney welcome to the royal visitors! The Prince and Princess were not content to look at them from a distance, either. They walked among the clamorous throng and saw them at their games; they asked innumerable questions about them, and even had a few typical slum children brought forward to be questioned about their homes and families.

Among the Children.

More than that their Royal Highnesses could not have done, and the thousand waifs will never forget the kindly smiles of the Prince and Princess, and the interest they displayed in their welfare during a visit paid them in their green playground. In the midst of the afternoon's delights the Prince and Princess arrived in their motor-car. It seemed as though all Loughton, Chingford, Woodford, and the woodland hamlets had turned out to give the royal visitors a welcome, for the road through the forest to Strawberry Hill was lined with cheering crowds. The Prince and Princess, greeted with a great cheer from the multitude of sightseers round the specially hurried F.A.F. enclosure, at once decided to go among the children.

The Prince's Commendation.

The Prince and Princess were received by Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, Founder of the Fresh Air Fund, Mrs. Pearson, and Sir John Kirk, secretary of the Haggerston School Union, which organizes the outings. The first thought of the royal visitors was to go among the children cheering and romping on the hillside below. The children fairly surged round their Royal Highnesses, and it required all the efforts of the attendants to keep an open space. Both the Prince and Princess were obviously pleased at their reception by the slum children, and displayed the kindest interest in their appearance and the facts told them about their poverty-stricken homes. After a lengthy tour of the glade in which the youngsters were at play, the Prince and Princess returned to the

UP IN THE CLOUDS.

THRILLING ADVENTURE OF TWO GIRLS.

A thrilling adventure befell two lady parachutists—Miss Daisy Shephard and Miss Louie May—in Staffordshire. At a fête in Loughton Park they ascended in a parachute balloon with the intention of making a double descent. The balloon travelled to a great height, and the anxious on-lookers soon began to realise that something was amiss. The intrepid performers vanished in the clouds in a south-easterly direction, and nothing more was seen of them. At Loughton news of the aeronauts was awaited anxiously for hour after hour, and it was feared that the girls would become numbed with the cold at the great height they had attained, and be unable to help themselves.

Girls' Daring Leap.

It was subsequently learnt that the two girls had had a thrilling experience. One of the parachutes became entangled in the cording of the balloon, and failed to act, and only when an altitude of 11,000 feet (over two miles) had been reached was the young lady involved able to free herself. She then took a daring flying leap to her companion, and both descended on the one parachute. The increased weight, however, resulted in the descent being much more rapidly, and on reaching the ground, Miss Shephard received serious injury. Her companion, however, was comparatively uninjured. The balloon had travelled a distance of 11 miles before the descent could be made, the girls landing at Uttroter.

It Was Life or Death.

It was Miss May's parachute that became entangled in the ropes of the balloon, and she was unable to liberate it. Miss Shephard, an experienced aeronaut, advised her companion what to do, but although Miss May climbed up the side of the balloon, she could not unfasten the parachute. Meanwhile the balloon kept rising, and reached an altitude of 11,000ft. It was a thrilling moment for the aeronauts. There was only one parachute available, constructed to carry one person. Miss May at last said to her companion, "Now we must go; it is either life or death for us." Miss Shephard recognised that the risks of descent were preferable to the danger of exposure in the balloon, and she advised Miss May to unfasten the belt and other apparatus connecting her to the parachute, and swing herself across to catch hold of the parachute with which Miss Shephard was to descend.

Wonderful Nerve.

Miss May proceeded to comply with these instructions, but instead of



OUR PHOTO SHOWS THE PRINCESS OF WALES, BEHIND WHOM IS THE PRINCE OF WALES TALKING TO MR. C. A. PEARSON. ON THE RIGHT OF THE PICTURE IS SIR JOHN KIRK.
(Photo by Park.)

enclosure, where a number of those interested in the movement were present, to their Royal Highnesses. The Fresh Air Fund is doing. It is and to see the children in so much need, but a fine thing to be able to get them into the country for a day.

The Prince's Descent.

Their Royal Highnesses asked many questions about the children, and showed that they really have the cause of the F.A.F. at heart. Then the Prince said: "I should like to pay a surprise visit some day during the season, and get among the children without the people round about knowing it. What I have seen to-day has been greatly interested in. After taking tea in the royal marquee, during which the Princess asked that a cup of tea be taken out to a little barefooted girl who had been overcome with the excitement of the day, and was lying very weary just inside the enclosure, the royal visitors motored away, amid rounds of cheers, from the happy scene. Then came a surprise. The royal motor-car went out of its way a little to pull up at the F.A.F. Retreat. Nobody expected this visit, and the Prince and Princess entered the Retreat just as the tables were being got ready for tea. Here, again, a volume of questions was asked, and both the Prince and Princess before they left one of the best boys provided for the children, pronouncing very good indeed. A few minutes later the royal motor-car was speeding down the forest road on its way back to London, and the royal visit to the F.A.F.'s playground was over.

ANCIENT GLASTONBURY.

Remarkable discoveries, which, it is expected, will throw considerable light on a little known period of the history of Glastonbury Abbey, have been made in the east wall of the ruins. So important are the discoveries in the estimation of Mr. Bligh Bond, the antiquarian who has the oversight of the excavations, that they are to be immediately submitted to expert examination.

swinging across to her companion, she made a daring jump, a distance of five feet. This hazardous feat was performed at an altitude of two miles. As she sprang, Miss May's feet became entangled in the trapeze ropes, and it was only the presence of mind and lightning thought and action of Miss Shephard that saved her from being buried to death. Miss Shephard pluckily reached out and just managed to grasp her companion's arm. Then the two ladies loosed the parachute, and the double weight carried them downward at a terrific pace. A few villagers at Leigh, near Uttroter, had been watching the descent with apprehension, and when the parachute dropped on a local farm they hastened to render assistance. It was found that Miss Shephard, who touched the ground first, and was fallen upon by her companion, was very seriously injured. Despite this fact, she was marvellously cheerful, and showed the greatest fortitude. Miss May was practically unharmed, though shaken, and was able later to return to Loughton with Capt. Gaudron, who had followed the course of the balloon by road the moment he noticed the aeronauts in difficulties.

Stuck to Her Friend.

First aid was rendered by several villagers, who procured a stretcher and conveyed the injured lady to a farmhouse, where she was attended by the doctors to suffering from spinal paralysis. Miss Shephard seemed to make light of the thrilling adventure. "Oh," she said cheerily, "I shan't be long before I am making another descent," although at the moment she was lying on her back, unable to move. In reply to the inquiry why she went so high, she replied: "Miss May could not leave her parachute, and, of course, I could not leave her alone with the balloon, so there was no alternative." "But you found an alternative?" "Yes, thanks to an awfully plucky lady, a mid-air by Miss May. It was a fortunate thing that when we could have left the balloon I was right to see if Miss May was all right. Had I left when I was ready, she would still have been with the balloon."

EXPOSURE.

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—◆—

Mr. Lewis Waller so seldom has occasion to change his bill that when the alteration comes the interest of employers in his new production becomes intensified. This result was shown in the general excitement observed before the curtain rose upon Mr. W. S. Maughan's play, "The Explorer." The opening scene at a corn-depositing warehouse, grip, seen in the fore-tribe of the Africans, in an old county family, while awaiting the jury's verdict regarding their head on his trial at the assize town near his own ancient home for forgery. The blow falls on the witness, and daughter, with the announcement from the court of the criminal sentence. The stern truth is brought by a close intimate of the family, the under Mackenzie, a Central African explorer, who, after breaking the terrible news to the stricken relatives, seeks to relieve the daughter, Lucy, whom he has long silently loved, of her load of shame and disgrace, by taking the onus of it upon himself by asking her to take his name in becoming his wife when the verdict is pronounced.

The exploration. The girl, who in her heart has reciprocated Mackenzie's affection, plight her troth to him on one condition—that he shall take with him on his adventurous expedition to Uganda her hysterically weak young brother.

In the next act Mackenzie, with his cheery exploring charm, Richard Lomas, and the free-lanced explorer, Alan, are found capping out the remote forest under sore street-hunger and privation, intensified by dire peril menacing them from the savage tribe they are fighting as slavers. George, demoralised, I think, to which he has taken, is shot down in cold blood a native woman, and, convicted by his guardian Mackenzie of the murder, he offered the gallows, an abjectly brutal and execution for the unpitied murder, a forlorn hope in vain upon the insurgent savages, which he campishly accepts.

Culminating the crisis of the story, the third act brings Mackenzie as Lomas home to England, but without George, killed in the forlorn hope. A spare report reaches England, spread by a letter to The Explorer, that Mackenzie has sacrificed his protegee to save himself, leading to the reputation of the explorer, Lady Kelsey, Lucy's mother, and his friends; as a coward and betrayer of his trust, by all, indeed, save Lucy herself, who, protesting against the denunciation by her left's guide, Sir Rbt. Boulger, when left alone, Mackenzie, entreats him to answer, refute the charges, and absolve him, again, him. But Mackenzie's is sealed by a promise, extracted from him by George that under circumstances will he divulge his famous crime to his sister's mother. Bound in honour as the cause explorer is by this pledge, refuses Lucy's request to clear himself through a passionate scene from him, which ends by Lucy's claim, but because of her, is cancelled, and their parting forlorn.

But this is not all; in the concluding act Boulger, the denouncer of Mackenzie, appears to state that as the result of inquiries made in Africa, it is proven by the explorer, he brings that the captain, George on the forlorn hope not to save him from the gallows, but to save him from a soldierly death, infancy from Lucy and her mother. This news, given to Lucy, brings her to the arms of her lover as the chain falls.

The serious interest is agreeably lightened by brilliantly written passages between Dick Lomas and young widow, Marie played with humour by Mr. A. E. George, and Miss E. Moore. Mr. Lewis Waller displayed a fine sense of mainly restraint in his treatment of George's crime from his sister Lucy, contrasting with fine dramatic effect and the splendid masculine earnestness of Miss Evelyn Millard as the contrived girl. Other parts were excellently acted by Miss Chas. Rock, Mr. Henry R. Shiel, Barry, and Miss Mary Rorke.

The reception of the play was hearty and enthusiastic up to the close of the third act, but the interest fell off somewhat, causing the applause to be weakened to some extent at the fall of the curtain.

HEARTS OF OAK.
CONCLUSION OF THE WHITMAN CONGRESS.

The concluding day's proceedings of the Whitman conference of delegates of the Hearts of Oak Benevolent Society took place yesterday at the Scotch House, Easton-rd., when the president, Mr. A. J. Palmer (Plaston) presided over an attendance of 210 delegates and trustees. Mr. Stope, the president of the executive council, stated that the Manchester Local Oddfellows had decided to request the National Conference of Friendly Societies. Mr. Stope introduced the report by the executive council, a resolution instructing them to prepare a scheme for the acceptance of the proposed contributions and the deposit of a deposit account. The motion was proposed by Mr. T. W. M. and pointed out that the interest paid to be given by the report could be obtained without earnings, a large amount of money and income, the management expenses of the society, and that the scheme was a very serious incubus to the society. The report was rejected.

KING EDWARD'S RETURN.
The Victoria and Albert, with King, the Queen, and Prince of Wales on board, arrived at the from the Baltic late last night, at nine o'clock this morning, at Victoria, the yacht being registered at the pier, No. 10. The King and Queen are due to leave at Charing Cross at 1.10 to-day will drive to Buckingham Palace, will remain there till after 10 to-morrow, when they go down Windsor or for the Acrot walk.

David O'Brien was cut to pieces by the Milford express on the G.W. near Swanwick.

100

(Special to "The People.")

[illegible]

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

PARAGRAPHS FROM ALL PARTS.

In London 2,321 and 1,068 deaths were registered last week.

Allowing for the increase of population the births were 138 and the deaths 135 below the average.

The annual death rate from all causes further fell last week to 11.6. The 1,068 deaths included 1 from scarlet fever, 13 from diphtheria, 35 from enteric fever, and 14 from diarrhoea. Different forms of violence caused 72 deaths.

In Greater London 3,761 births and 1,572 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, these numbers are 56 and 115 below the respective averages in the corresponding weeks of the previous five years.

The deaths registered last week in 16 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 17 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 16,234,362 persons in the middle of this year. In the preceding three weeks the rates had been 13.2, 13.2, and 13.4.

Widness Town Council has reduced its charge to ordinary consumers for gas to 2d. per 1,000 cubic feet, a world's record.

A charge of wife murder against Jas. Christie, maltman, was reduced by the jury at the High Court, Edinburgh, to homicide, and the Lord Chief Justice passed sentence of 15 years' penal servitude.

Jack of all trades. "We must eliminate the type of student who takes shorthand, wood-carving, electric lighting, and sports in successive years," declared a speaker at the conference in London of teachers in technical schools.

Tomtits in the workhouse. For the past 14 years a brood of tomtits has been reared each spring in the letter-box at Uffington Workhouse. Since the parent birds first took possession of the box they have successfully hatched 200 eggs.

Gift to workpeople. A new social club, pavilion recreation rooms, and bowling greens provided at a cost of over £6,000 for their workpeople at Lanchester near Northwich, by the Brunner Mond Co., chemical manufacturers, were opened by Mrs. Buckley, Sir John Brunner's daughter.

The population of New Zealand has been returned at 922,464, excluding Maoris.

Nine juries out of 13 at an inquest held at the London Hospital during the week were unable to write their names.

It was reported at the triennial conference of the Boot Operatives' Union, at Rushden, that the membership new totalled 31,473, an increase of 4,000, while the funds amounted to £110,572, an increase of £16,129.

After being sent to Home and blessed by the Pope, the foundation-stone of a new Roman Catholic church at Southwick, Sunderland, was laid by Dr. Collins, auxiliary bishop of Hexham and Newcastle.

Canon Edwards, vicar of All Saints, Devonshire-road, South London, has again started his early morning services for working men. The service began at 5.30 a.m., and ended promptly at 5.50.

Leonard Weston, a lad, of Llan-samlet, has died from inflammation of the brain caused through being accidentally struck on the head by a cricket bat, which one of his companions was swinging.

The Rev. I. W. Tapper has retired from his duty as rector of St. James, Suffolk, where he celebrated his 100th birthday a little time since, and has all but completed a clerical career of 70 years' duration.

Trotting record beaten. Mr. Walter Winaar's amateur trotting record—a mile in three minutes—has been beaten. He beat it himself easily at Watford Horse Show, covering the mile behind his well-known American trotter, Harney F. and Rip, in 2min. 38.3-sec. The course was circular, four laps to the mile.

GLASGOW TRAMWAYS. The total receipts of the Glasgow tramways for the financial year just ended were £297,400, an increase of £20,079 over the previous year. The total number of passengers carried up till the closing day of the year under review was 226,467,350, an increase of 1,526,941 over the preceding year.

KILLED BY A WEASEL. Joseph Carrell, a young farmer of Bucknall, Cheshire, discovered what he believed to be a rabbit's nest. Thrusting his hand into the burrow he was horrified to find that a weasel had buried her teeth deep into the wrist, severing one of the veins. Blood poison followed, and he now ended fatally. The vicious little animal had three young ones in the burrow.

The first ears of wheat grown this year have been gathered from a 40-acre field by Mr. Hugh Smith, of Wisbech. The ears are well developed.

A wreath of red and white roses and lilies was placed on the grave of Charles Dickens, in Westminster Abbey in memory of the 30th anniversary of the novelist's death.

About 200 houses and some shops in the village of Ararat-Koi, on the Bonaparte, have been destroyed by fire. Several insurance companies are affected.

The annual meeting of the United Kingdom Bazaar Association, Kensington Auxiliary, will take place on June 30 at 25, Park-lane, by permission of Sir Edward and Lady Sassoon. The National Union of Clerks, in conference at Birmingham, declared in favour of a minimum wage of 35s. per week in London and provincial centres, and 27s. 6d. in rural districts.

Mr. Sims, a member of the United States House of Representatives, has had his pocket picked on the floor of the House, to which only members are admitted.

The professorship of biology at Cambridge has been given to Mr. Wm. Bateson, F.R.S., who is the son of a former master of St. John's, and who promoted the famous poll on the question of degrees for women.

Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton inspected the Oxford Regiment of the Church Lads' Brigade at Reading at their annual review. About 50 companies, consisting of 1,500 lads, were on parade.

The Hon. Archibald Gordon (Berlin Club), the German amateur golf champion at Berlin, defeating Mr. Alan Hinkley (West Heimbek Club) in the final by six holes up and five to play.

"I thought I would make one less for you," wrote a Bourne-mouth shop-black, who has been given permission by the Christchurch Guardians to choose a wife from among the women in the workhouse.

GARDEN PARTIES FOR PAUPERS. At the request of several residents in the district, the Romford Board of Guardians have agreed to allow inmates of the workhouse to attend garden-parties arranged for their entertainment.

A PUBLIC DUTY. Lord Brassey was present at the parade of the 4th Bn. Chichester Regt. of the Church Lads' Brigade. Addressing the boys, he said that every young man who qualified himself more or less to serve in the ranks at the call of his country was doing a public duty.

ANGRY LADIES. Threatening to keep their husbands away from the services, a deputation of angry wives has demanded a retraction from the Rev. S. Goodman, of the Men's Church, Atlantic City, U.S.A., who recently said: "Woman is a creature who cannot resist the commands of courtesy."

The next sitting of the Court of Criminal Appeal will take place on June 19.

There are now 180,000 members of the Semi-Total Association, all of whom are pledged to take no intoxicating drinks except at meals.

Commander Peary's Newfoundland master and crew of the exploring vessel have left St. John's to join and fit out the ship at New York. For disobeying the police order to refrain from singing the police preaching a Hindu has been sent to gaol for a month at Parnagudi, Madras.

Through fear of being compelled to enter a workhouse, Jno. Wright, aged 91, and his wife, Mary, aged 88, have committed suicide at Hebron, Maine.

A manifesto calling upon trade unions to become affiliated with the Independent Labour Party has been issued at Belfast by the Irish Trade Union Congress.

A boiler situated in the grounds of Tuxthorpe Park Workhouse, Liverpool, exploded. Three inmates, named Higby, Lloyd, and Smith, who were employed in stoking it, were killed.

Three generations of the Walker family at Polney take part in the bells of the parish church on Sunday. The senior member of the family, Mr. Geo. Walker, has just celebrated his 85th birthday.

Viscount Milner and Mr. Alfred Lyttelton have been appointed vice-presidents of the Royal Colonial Institute, in succession to the late Duke of Devonshire and the late Marquis of Linton.

An elderly widow named Carrey, of Southwood-lane, Highgate, who was about to undergo an operation in a hospital, was found drowned in 15in. of water in a pond in Waterlow Park, Highgate.

IS WELSH DYING OUT? In his evidence before the Royal Commission on the Church in Wales, the Bishop of St. Asaph pointed out that since 1891 there was only an increase of 19,535 in the number of Welsh people who spoke Welsh, while during the same period the increase in the number of those who spoke English was 415,472.

THE HONOUR OF THE UNIFORM. When a soldier was accused at the Willenden Police Court of fighting, the magistrate ordered that he should not be placed in the dock, adding: "A communication has been received from the Secretary for War in which he desires that the King's uniform should not be brought into disgrace in this manner."

ETHER AND CHLOROFORM-PROOF. After wasting several gallons of chloroform and ether and several hours in trying to prepare Mogul, the baby rhinoceros in the Bronx Park Zoo, New York, for an operation, the doctors found it was impossible to produce complete anaesthesia. Mogul had to be held down during the operation.

What is claimed to be the largest hotel in the world, with accommodation for 2,000 visitors, and 66 billiard-rooms, is being built at Berlin.

Gifts made to universities and colleges of the United States during the past 12 months amount to over £4,000,000.

At a meeting of Carlisle Corporation it was decided to confer the honorary freedom of the city on the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Lord Roberts presided over a gathering of some 30 officer survivors of the famous siege of Delhi, who dined together at the Hotel Cecil.

Mrs. Meers, of Sandown, celebrated her 100th birthday on Wednesday by attending Holy Communion at Christ Church, Sandown, at noon.

A postcard poll was taken at Maiden (Essex) to test the opinion of the inhabitants as to having Sunday music in the recreation ground. The poll showed a large majority in its favour.

While descending Cromford Hill, near Matlock, the brake of the bicycle ridden by a man named Chas. Sheraton, aged 50, broke, and the rider, crashing into a greengrocer's cart, sustained fatal injuries.

While picking coal from some pit-wood, near Wolverhampton, the earth caved in and two lads, named Wm. Corbett and Wm. Johnson, belonging to Moseley village, fell into a hole 10 feet deep and were asphyxiated.

Compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, the estimates of the Poplar Borough Council for the quarter ending Sept. 30 next show an increase of £13,829, the total amounts being: 1908, £107,763; 1907, £93,934.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Killaloe, preaching at Berr, said that "wakes" were frequently scandalous orgies, and in future when a priest knew that drink was to be distributed at a wake or funeral he would not be allowed to go to the funeral or read the service for the dead.

A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR. "What I complain about is having to pay rates and taxes to keep the likes of him (the policeman) to look me up," said a man charged at Willenden with drunkenness.

LEATHER SHOES FOR HORSES. In certain districts of Australia horses are now shod with leather instead of iron, the feet thus receiving better support. This novelty is employed only in regions where the ground is permanently covered with grass or fine sand.

A NARROW ESCAPE. A Mrs. Gooderson, of London, who has been staying at Harrowden, near Wellingborough, has had a narrow escape from death. Her son found a rock rifle, and, not knowing that it was loaded, pulled the trigger. The charge hit Mrs. Gooderson on the head, but happily it struck some hairpins, which diverted its course.

A prize of £3,000 in a lottery organised at St. Pol, France, has been won by a widow named Sully-Gonet.

Mrs. Clark, of 164, High-road, Wood Green, has just entered her 105th year. She is in good health, and possesses all her faculties.

In order to improve the appearance of the New York zoological park the authorities have forbidden the bringing of monkey nuts into the place.

Nottingham Watch Committee forbade the use of the representation of John the Baptist's head in the Salome dance at the Nottingham Empire by Miss Odette Valery.

The Marquis of Huntly was sued for £20 by Jesse Ward, butcher, under a judgment summons at Peterborough County Court. The judge made an order for prompt payment.

At the Mansion House to-morrow a marble bust of the late Mr. George Herring, who bequeathed about £700,000 to the Hospital Sunday Fund, will be unveiled.

The thoroughbred stallion Positano, by St. Simon—Posna, has been sold at Melbourne for £4,725 to Mr. S. Green for his stud near Warrnambool, Victoria.

An open verdict was returned at an inquest at Colman on Wm. Beale, a well-known one-armed Surrey athlete and follower of hounds. Beale, who a few years ago ran 80 miles in 12 hours, was found drowned in an ornamental lake.

A motor-car containing three undergraduates from Cambridge was proceeding between Royston and Cambridge when a boy named Ernest Webb, aged ten, ran after a ball, and despite all efforts to prevent an accident, was hit by the car and died shortly afterwards.

PROPOSED RAILWAY EXTENSION. Down County Council, by a majority of one, passed an amendment against a resolution of their Proposals Committee, recommending a guarantee of 4 per cent. on £250,000 towards the construction of a new railway in the barony of Ards, Co. Down.

ODD REASON FOR TAKING POISON. "Your enormous rise of half a crown has quite upset my brain; I have lost everything in order as near as possible." This note, addressed to his employer, was found in the room of William Cartwright, 30, veterinary inspector, of Burnley, who committed suicide by taking poison at a Black-poll hotel on Whit-Monday.

SOUTHWOLD'S FIRST FREEMAN. The Corporation of Southwold has determined to inaugurate a municipal roll of honour in the form of a list of freemen, and has decided that the first name to appear upon it shall be that of Mr. Andrew Matthews, a gentleman, who has in many ways played the part of philanthropist to Southwold, where his latest act of generosity has been the presentation of a block of almshouses for aged residents.

RECORD TRAMWAY TRAFFIC. The London United Tramways carried 1,000,000 passengers during Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. This is believed to be a record for any tramway of the same mileage.

£20,000 NEW EXETER HALL. On a central site near that of the old Exeter Hall in the Strand, the Evangelical Alliance have decided to erect a new Exeter Hall, at a cost of £20,000. The building is to be ready for the holding of the "May meetings" of 1910.

ENGLAND FOR THE FOREIGNER. More than 100 Chinamen who are employed in Liverpool laundries took part in a picnic this week at New Brighton. Later in the day a hostile demonstration was made against them by Liverpool laundry women, who complain that they are ruining the laundry trade by under-cutting

NEXT WEEK, "THE GOLD FISH AND THE WATER LILY." SUNG BY MISS MADOLINE REES.

MARCH! MARCH! MARCH!

OR, YOU'RE PROUD TO BE A SOLDIER.

SUNG BY GEORGE LASHWOOD.

This Song may be sung in public without Fee or Licence, except at Theatres or Music Halls.

[COPYRIGHT.]

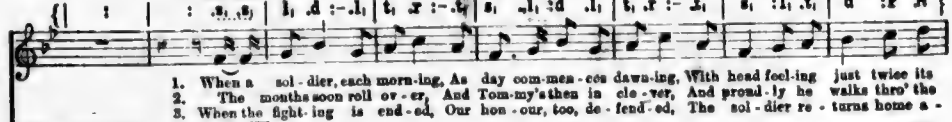
Written by RALPH NAIRN & E. C. MATTHEWS.

Composed by RALPH NAIRN.

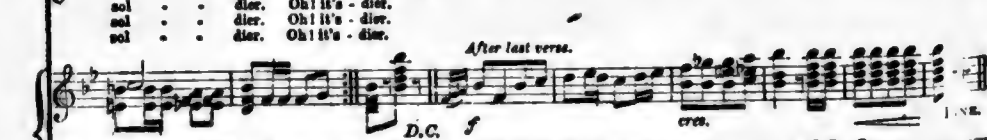
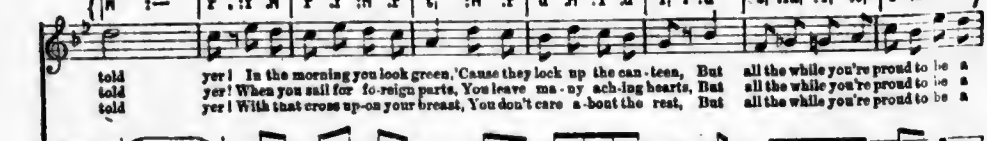
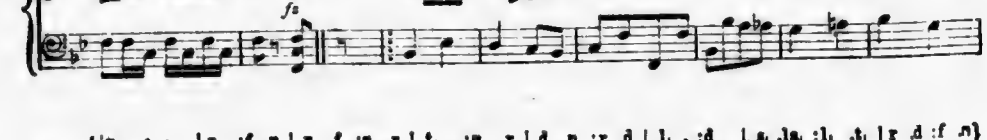
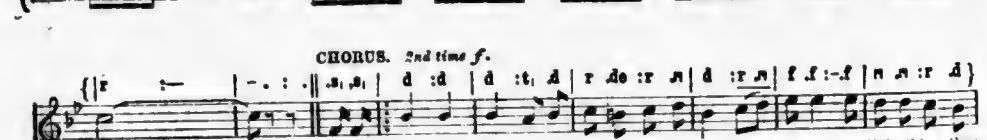
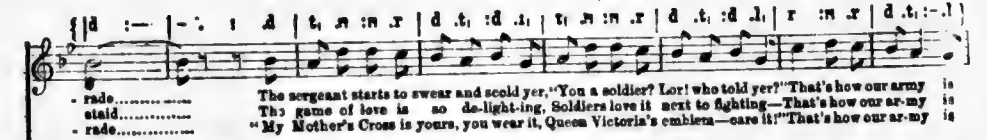
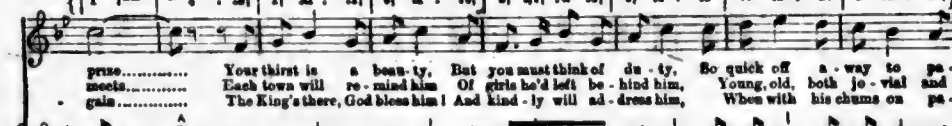
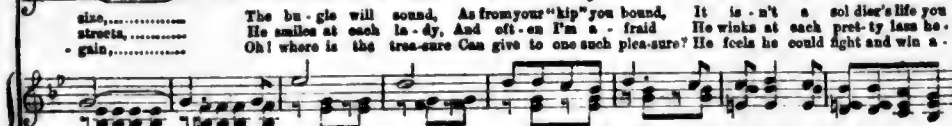
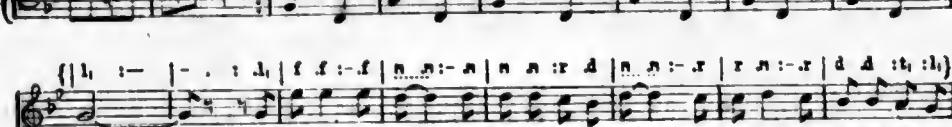
[Tutti ready.]



KEY Bb.



1. When a soldier, each morn-ing, As day com-men-ces dawn-ing, With head feel-ing just twice its
2. The months soon roll o-ver, And Tom-my's then in ele-ver, And proud-ly he walks thro' the
3. When the fight-ing is end-ed, Our hon-our, too, de-fend-ed, The sol-dier re-turms home a-



MURDERED CHILD.**NO ARREST IN LONDON MYSTERY.**

The South London child murder mystery is still unsolved, and despite the fact that hundreds of detectives have now been searching for the murderer of the little girl, Marie Bailey, for a fortnight, the murderer is still at large. Several men have been detained on suspicion of being connected with the crime, but all have been subsequently released. The meagre clues in the hands of the police are being carefully followed up, but so far with little success, although the police are hopeful of making an arrest at any moment.

The Medical Theory. In connection with the crime, Dr. Forbes Winslow has written the following letter to the Commissioner of Police:—

"In my opinion the perpetrator of such crimes is a dangerous homicidal lunatic. I believe that he could be easily run to earth were the proper steps taken. I am of opinion that the real murderer was not the person who deposited the parcel. I also believe that the usual red-tapeism and the regarding of the murder as of a different type, and, therefore, requiring different plans of investigation from ordinary crimes, has been the cause of the delay. There would be not the least difficulty in capturing, without further delay, the actual murderer. Beyond this I have no intention of saying anything further. The matter is in the hands of the police, and it is to be hoped that a murderer of such a type will be speedily brought to justice."

Medical Theory. Mrs. Bailey, the little victim's mother, strangely enough, is obsessed by the idea that a woman was concerned. This has been strengthened by a dream. "It happened two nights ago," said Mrs. Bailey. "I had dropped into a half-sleeping state when I seemed to see a woman come in at the door carrying a long, sharp instrument. She came towards me, and was about to attack me when I woke up screaming. Probably it was due to the nervous state I have been in since Saturday week, or to things neighbours have said, but I shall never forget the experience. It is my belief that Marie was frightened away by a woman, because she would never have gone with a man. We cannot find that she was seen with one. I always warned her not to stop if any strange man spoke to her, but to come straight home."

Who Enticed Her? What I think she did on Friday was to go up to the garden and to the canal bridge. A man's body had been fished out near there on the day before, and the children were talking about it. So I think it very likely that she and some others went to look—children-like—at the spot. She might have been enticed from there by a woman telling her her mother wanted her. I cannot imagine a woman doing such a terrible thing. A tunnel on the towing path not far from the place referred to by Mrs. Bailey would have served to hide the murderer and his victim from view, and it is conjectured that this was the place where the child was first strangled and her mother was then stabbed and attention that the wounds were in the shape of a cross, and in some quarters this has led to a theory that a semi-religious fanatic was the murderer.

Police Appeal. Meantime the police are vigilant, and still hopeful that they will bring their endeavours. They have issued the following notice, which appears outside the North London police stations:—

METROPOLITAN POLICE. Information is being sought as to the OWNER OF A SINGLE BLANKET of the following description: Yft. 21a. by St. Ann, bordered with two blue outer lines, two yellow inner lines, and red centre lines. Borne in several places down to the centre, also slightly torn in the middle. Red buttonhole stitch binding, worn completely off one end. This blanket was found wrapped round the body of the murdered child, Marie Ellen Bailey, on Saturday, May 30 last. Any information as to the owner of this blanket, or any other person who has seen it, or about whose movements inquiries are being made.

A CURIOUS CLUE.**A COPY OF "THE PEOPLE" LEADS TO A CONVICTION.**

At Somerset Assize before Justice Lawrence, the issue of "The People" for April 22 brought about the conviction of Fred Osborne, a young labourer of 19, for arson. He fired a stack at East Pennard, near Shepton Mallet, on Feb. 22, and, having been bailed out on Feb. 25 pending trial, fired a stack on May 7 at West Pennard. He pleaded guilty to the first charge though the judge said it was weak, depending almost entirely on the prisoner's own statements, but not guilty to the offence of May 7. Apart from evidence as to his movements which was consistent with his having been near the stack at the time of the conflagration, the only evidence against prisoner on this charge was that the policeman found in the ashes of the stack a fragment of "The People" (proved subsequently by comparison to belong to the issue of the 26th) burned on one side. The officer proceeded to the house of the prisoner, and, calling for the coat he wore on the day of the fire, found in the pocket another piece of "The People," which, being placed side by side with the piece found at the stack, corresponded exactly. Even the printed matter could be read across the break by the jury, who disregarded prisoner's suggestion that the policeman "made" the evidence, and found him guilty. Prisoner was, on account of his youthfulness, sent to prison for 12 months under the Borstal system.

A REMARKABLE RECOVERY.

A man who was eating an orange on Tower Bridge threw the peel into the water, and a diamond ring, worth £20, slipped off his finger. Without any hope of ever seeing the ring again, he gave information to the police. A few days afterwards he was told that his ring was at Rochester, and he went there to retrieve it. The ring had fallen on to a passing barge, and the barge, guessing what had happened, gave it up to the police. He received a reward of £5.

DOCTOR CHARGED.**ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MEDICAL MAN.**

The Waltham Abbey magistrates dealt with two charges against Dr. Thomas Ackland, 34, described as a physician and surgeon, of Harefield-road, Brixton. In the first case the charge was brought by the N.E.P.C.C., and had reference to Mary McArthur, a four-year-old girl, who was found at the restaurant as night man and cook. He was left in charge of the establishment on the night of June 20 last, and it was alleged that he absconded with the money in question. Last week he was arrested at Grimsby by Det.-sergt. Hunt, and conveyed to London. Accused told the detective that he took the money because the manager of the restaurant would not pay him his wages, which amounted to £1 5s., and that he went

Charge of Bigamy. The second charge was for contracting a bigamous marriage with Hetty Florence (deceased). In her evidence, Miss Sutcliffe said she had been a cashier. She met prisoner on September 16, 1907, on board the Pomeranian, bound for Canada. She was travelling from London to Montreal, and he was engaged as doctor on the vessel. They became friendly, and on October 3 they were married at St. George's Church, Montreal, she believing him to be a single man. Evidence was given of prisoner's marriage on October 5, 1908, to Margaret Hankey at Dalton-in-Furness, and that she is still alive. Prisoner, who asked no questions, was committed for trial at the Essex Assizes.

£1,400 INVOLVED.**CHARGES OF FRAUD AGAINST A PREACHER.**

Great interest was taken in a case brought forward at Bowditch Police Court, when Frederick Slater, former man living at Bolton, was charged with obtaining money by false pretences. Slater has been for many years associated with the Wesleyan Church as a local preacher and Sunday School superintendent. He recently filed his petition in bankruptcy, with liabilities amounting to £7,000 and assets practically nil. Mr.



FREDERICK SLATER. D. Thompson, who represented the Public Prosecutor, explained that seven different charges, involving £1,400, were to be investigated, and the case would last many hours. The bankrupt has admitted that he had misappropriated funds belonging to a children's saving club, of which he was treasurer, and also funds belonging to the church. He further admitted that a deed purporting to have been signed by John Moore, his brother-in-law, had not been seen by that gentleman. Remanded.

"EXCESSIVE ECONOMY."**HUSBAND'S MEANNESS LEADS TO DIVORCE ACTION.**

In New Jersey there is a divorce action pending in which the judge and jury must decide whether excessive economy on the part of the husband of Scottish origin constitutes legal cruelty. According to the wife's story, the husband established a strong claim to the diamond belt for meanness. On the twelfth anniversary of the wedding the wife asked for an increase of her weekly allowance, consisting of £6, to supply the table. This enraged the husband, and he forthwith deserted her. The climax in thrift, she says, was reached when her husband compelled their son to take long steps to save his shoes. Short-stopping was extravagance, he said, because the boy could cover just as much ground and save leather by increasing his stride. The wife says her husband kept a set of scales under lock and key. He would weigh all the groceries, and even counted the apples and eggs. She attempted to demand when her partner counted the eggs in the package of macaroni, but it did not do any good. The case is undecided.

IN THE HOP FIELDS.**ASCENDING PICKER AND LITTLE GIRL.**

Sentence of six months' hard labour was passed at Midhurst on Christy Stanley, of Landport, Portsmouth, who was charged with an aggravated assault on a little girl named Agnes Holden, at the village of Bepton, on Sept. 11 last. Evidence was given by the child, her brother and sister, and mother, and it seemed that it occurred in the hop gardens, where the parties were working and sleeping in tents at the time. It was alleged that prisoner took the child to his tent and committed the assault. A complaint was made to the police, and Sept. 12, but prisoner had absconded. He also found that he had not gone to his home at Landport. However, the Portsmouth police subsequently effected the arrest.

PRISONER'S DENIAL.

Evidence on oath was given by prisoner, who said he was innocent of the charge, and the story that had been told was "a pack of lies." The Magistrate's Clerk: When did you leave the hop picking? Prisoner: On the Thursday morning. In passing sentence the chairman said it was a serious and dreadful offence, and could not be treated lightly. On hearing the sentence prisoner burst into tears, and was embraced in a reproach by his mother and friends.

DOVE LOSE OLD! Kate, post-employment by using London's Standard, and Standard's Standard, 20 years. World-wide Standard, 20 years. World-wide Standard, 20 years. London, E.C. 4.

ALLEGED BIGAMY.**A SHIP'S STEWARD'S STRANGE CAREER.**

Some remarkable allegations were made against Arthur Howard, 35, described as a ship's steward, who was charged, on remand, at Bow-st. Lockhart's Restaurant, in Coventry-st. Prisoner was employed at the restaurant as night man and cook. He was left in charge of the establishment on the night of June 20 last, and it was alleged that he absconded with the money in question. Last week he was arrested at Grimsby by Det.-sergt. Hunt, and conveyed to London. Accused told the detective that he took the money because the manager of the restaurant would not pay him his wages, which amounted to £1 5s., and that he went



ARTHUR HOWARD. to Manchester the same night. The manager of the restaurant was now called, and said prisoner's wages were not due until the day after he absconded. Accused was further charged with feloniously intermarrying, in March, 1905, with Emma Lizzie McDonald, at West Hackney Parish Church, his wife, Mary Ann Snape, being alive.

Second "Wife's" Story.

Emma Lizzie McDonald, of Blackstock-rd., Highbury, said she managed a shop for her brother. She first met prisoner in 1903, and she represented himself to be a single man. On March 19, 1905, she went through the form of marriage with him at West Hackney Parish Church. A month after the wedding prisoner went away, and when he returned, in December, 1906, he said he had been to Canada. After that they lived together, but accused eventually left her again. They had two children, one of whom was still living. A week ago witness heard that prisoner was a married man when he went through the form of marriage with her, and she caused inquiries to be made. Sarah Taylor, wife of E. Taylor, of Denmark Farm, Southwark, Yorkshire, said she was present at Coley Parish Church, Yorks., on March 23, 1905, when prisoner, in the name of Alfred John Snape, was married to Mary Ann McDonald, who was still living near Hackney.

Statement by Accused.

Det.-sergt. Hunt stated that when he told accused that he would be charged with feloniously intermarrying with Miss McDonald, he replied, "I don't consider my first marriage was a legal one, as the clergyman married us right away without the usual notice, because my

**EMMA McDONALD.**

wife was in trouble. I petitioned several times regarding this, but no notice was taken. My second wife wrote to me while I was away, and I answered her letter, but I have not seen or heard of her since. I got to know she was at Stoke Newington as her brother—whom I worked for—used to invite me to his rooms. When I was there, she and she threw herself at me. I met a girl at Grimsby after I took the money from Lockhart's through an advertisement a friend of mine had inserted in a paper. I did not mean to marry her, but we put up two banns just to make the old people think everything was all right. Mr. Curtis Bennett, is the other girl? The officer replied that it was so, and produced copies of the certificates relating to the two marriages. Prisoner was committed for trial on both charges. He then applied for legal aid. Mr. Curtis Bennett: You have shown no defence, and I shall not certify for legal aid.

COMING DIVORCE CASES.

The divorce list for the next sittings, which open on Tuesday at the Law Courts, contains 247 cases for trial. Of these 113 are husband's petitions, and only 43 are wife's petitions. In the defended list before the court itself there are 53 cases which have reference to matrimonial differences. Of these 22 are petitions for a divorce presented by the husband.

A LOAN OF £375.

Henry F. Bumpus, bookbinder, formerly carrying on business in High Holborn, was summoned at Bow-st. for incurring a liability of £375 by false pretences. It was stated that he obtained a loan of £250 from the Provincial Union Bank, Ipswich, and that certain replies made to a representative of the bank were untrue. Defendant, who reserved his defence, was committed for trial, bail in £200 being allowed.

FATAL EXPLOSION.**INQUEST ON CLIFFE DISASTER VICTIMS.**

An inquest was held at Messrs. Curtis and Harvey's explosive works at Cliffe, near Rochester, touching the death of Clara Goodyear, 22, and Julia Munn, 18, who were killed by an explosion in the dynamite hut. Edk. Stradwick, foreman of the High Explosives Department, stated that he was on his way to the dynamite hut in which deceased were employed, when the explosion occurred. He was knocked down, falling on his face, but he got up and ran to the spot. The young women were engaged in filling cartridge cases with dynamite for blasting purposes by the aid of machines. Witness believed that the hut, which was blown to atoms, contained from 100 to 150 lb. of dynamite at the time of the explosion. He was of the opinion, after examining the machines, that the one used by Munn caused the explosion. Deceased had complained that the machines or pumps worked hard. He examined them two hours before the explosion, and they were then perfectly good.

Map. Cooper-King, one of H.M. Inspectors of factories, stated that the explosion was probably caused by friction, and it most likely occurred between the end of the plunger and the open end of the tube. It took a very slight blow to fire this particular explosive. The Home Office in reports issued in 1904, added witness recommended that the inside edge of the tube should be sanded off, so that they could not get a severe blow between that and the inside of the plunger, but Messrs. Curtis and Harvey had not introduced these machines on their works. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and expressed a hope that the firm would carry out the inspector's recommendations at once. Col. Curtis, the chairman of the board of directors of Messrs. Curtis and Harvey, expressed deep regret at the accident and deep sympathy with the relatives of the deceased. He asked the jury that their recommendations should receive careful consideration.

A NOVEL TEASHOP.**SHOULD BE POPULAR ON THE THAMES.**

"The Three Quizzes" is a funny name for a teashop, but the teashop itself is a funny one. It floats on the upper reaches of the Thames, and promises to be popular with lovers of the river, for they can get a cup of tea for threepence, or a basket containing a pot of tea and bread and cake for three persons for a shilling. The venture is to be confined for the present to the reach between Cookham and Maidenhead. Two punts have been fitted out as buffets, and they drift up and down the river between the points mentioned, at the service of the boating parties. No refreshments are served on the punts; customers take the things with them, and leave the crockery in their boats, the hirers of which have arranged to return them to the floating teashop.

FOR NEEDY GENTLEMEN.

The idea originated with Mrs. Holland, of "Ken's" Kitchen fame. During the Cuban trouble she received many letters asking why she did not devote her efforts to helping needy gentlemen, who would appreciate what she did for them. "The Floating Teashop," says Mrs. Holland, "is the result. We hope that as the feature becomes more popular we shall be able to start teashops on other reaches, and find employment for more gentlemen. A very promising beginning has been made. It is intended to have one of the floating teashops at Henley during the regatta." The first teashop has been christened "The Three Quizzes," owing to the gentlemen who are in charge of it not wishing their names to be known.

LOSS OF MEMORY.

A young woman has been admitted to the workhouse infirmary at Eastbourne suffering from loss of memory. She walked up to a policeman and asked him, she said she could not remember who she was or where she came from. The only thing she could remember was being in a field where she fell down. She seemed very tired, and appeared to have been walking for a long distance. Papers which were found in her possession led to her identification as a Miss Parkes, of Plumstead.

Lord Rothschild will distribute the prizes to the successful students at Guy's Hospital on July 8. The usual garden party will be given in the grounds.

**DRAMATIC SCENE.****STRANGE ARREST OF A BRIDEGROOM.**

A dramatic scene was witnessed at the registrar's office in Marlborough-st., Kensington. In company with a lady whom he wished to make his wife, a young man attended at the office. Just, however, as he was about to enter two detectives stepped forward and took him into custody. Later in the day the young man, whose name was given as Prudeaux Hawkins, 18, a clerk, of Ladbroke-grove, appeared at Westminster Police Court.

An Unusual Charge.

The charge against him was "attempting to have knowledge of a certain imbecile woman, Violet Falk." Miss Falk is the daughter of a solicitor, who only that morning applied to Mr. Horace Smith for the warrant on which Hawkins was arrested by Det.-sergt. Fitzgerald. Amongst those present in court were Mr. Mrs. and Miss Hawkins, the father, mother, and sister of prisoner; whilst Mr. Falk, the father of the lady, occupied a seat at the solicitors' table. Defendant is a dark-complexioned, striking looking youth, with jet black hair parted in the middle, and black bushy eyebrows.

In His Wedding Suit.

He was smartly dressed in dark, well-tailored long suit, light fancy vest, and black and white silk tie. He was wearing a pair of brown shoes, and carried a light dust-coat on his arm. He stepped jauntily into the dock, and seemed in no way concerned. Only evidence of arrest was given, and accused was then remanded. Det.-sergt. Fitzgerald said: Shortly after 12 o'clock I went with Sergt. Hambrough to Marlborough-st. I saw prisoner there. I told him we were police officers and that we had a warrant for his arrest. I read it to him, and he said, "I don't quite understand." I read it over to him again, and he then said, "I admit having been with the girl. I have lived with her for about a fortnight." The girl, who had been seen at several places specified in the affidavit, but the action was nevertheless stayed, and eventually prisoner was arrested in February, 1908, on the present charge. While in gaol on remand prisoner made a statement implicating a man named Bond, also of Nottingham, who, he declared, had grogged against prisoner, and who had employed him (prisoner) to initiate the action against him, and had sent Hardy to him. The next day prisoner made a supplemental statement denying that there was any such woman as Hardy, but still implicating Bond. Bond was eventually proceeded against in respect of the same reply.

"Conspiring to Get the Girl Away."

Mr. Pocock said he would reserve his cross-examination of the officer, and asked that accused should be allowed bail. Mr. Falk, the girl's father, rising from the solicitors' table, said that unless the magistrate thought accused should have bail he should oppose the application. "The girl has gone into a violent state of hysterics," said the father. "I told her that the boy is being taken care of, and that he is being taken care of at home. The whole family is conspiring to get the girl away from us, and if the boy is under lock and key, we shall have peace." Magistrate: Oh, no, no, no! Mr. Falk: Can there be an undertaking that he shall be kept away from her? Magistrate: I don't think so. He will obey the law. What I have to decide is whether there is any objection to bail. The police had no objection, and Mr. Pocock said the father was prepared to stand bail for his son.

Bail Allowed.

Defendant's father then went into the witness-box, and expressed his willingness to be responsible for the reappearance of his son. He said he lived in Ladbroke-grove. Magistrate: Are you worth £100 if all your goods were sold? Mr. Hawkins: My furniture alone cost me £1,000. Magistrate: Then I shall bind you over in the sum of £100 for the reappearance of your son next week. In the meantime nothing must be done by either of the parties to disturb the peace. Mr. Hawkins: The peace has been broken by the other side. Magistrate: I cannot help that. That has nothing to do with me. You must both keep the peace now. Accused then left the dock, and joined his parents and sister in court.

THE COWBOY BARONET.

Sir Gentle Cave-Brown-Cave, the cowboy baronet, appeared the other night in the ring at Col. Cummins' Wild West show, which has been appearing at New Brighton Tower Grounds. He was only on a hurried visit to Liverpool, and advantage was taken of his presence by two of his cowboy friends, who are with Cummins' band, to get him to change into the old familiar clothes. As he rode round the enclosure he received a hearty reception. Later he left for Manchester, but not before a promise had been extracted from him to appear next week to test his powers as a cowboy against the members of the show.

WHO WAS THE GIRL? TO ALL SKIN SUFFERERS**DEMANDING MONEY WITH MENACES.**

A strange case was investigated at the Bedford Assize before Justice Bray, when Harold Greaves, a private inquiry agent, of Nottingham, was indicted for feloniously causing to be received by one John Colin Bennet on Aug. 29, 1907, a certain letter demanding money with menaces and without reasonable or probable cause, he knowing the contents of the letter. The case for the Crown was that prisoner had set in motion a bogus action for breach of promise of marriage and seduction, purporting to claim on behalf of a woman named Annie Hardy £250 damages from prosecutor. The letter complained of was the letter before action, written by the solicitor named Wallis, of Nottingham, on the instructions of prisoner. The prosecution contended that there was no such woman setting up any such claim as alleged, and that prisoner had deceived the solicitor who acted, and with whom prisoner had previously transacted business for 10 or 12 years.

A False Affidavit.

The writ and statement of claim followed the letter, but the action was eventually dismissed by Justice Jeff at Chambers, the address of the alleged plaintiff Hardy being unobtainable, and no particulars as ordered being forthcoming. In these proceedings prisoner swore an affidavit declaring that he had seen Hardy on several occasions and at several places specified in the affidavit; but the action was nevertheless stayed, and eventually prisoner was arrested in February, 1908, on the present charge. While in gaol on remand prisoner made a statement implicating a man named Bond, also of Nottingham, who, he declared, had grogged against prisoner, and who had employed him (prisoner) to initiate the action against him, and had sent Hardy to him. The next day prisoner made a supplemental statement denying that there was any such woman as Hardy, but still implicating Bond. Bond was eventually proceeded against in respect of the same reply.

Prisoner's Story.

Greaves gave evidence for the prosecution against Bond, whom, however, the magistrates refused to commit for trial. The case against Greaves was then proceeded with, and he was duly committed to the Assize. Giving evidence in his own defence, prisoner reverted to his original story that there was a woman who introduced herself to him as Annie Hardy, and who, for some time after the action was instituted, he believed, had a good claim against Bennet. In the course of the defence prisoner further asserted that he acted as the mere tool of Bond to gratify Bond's animosity against prosecutor, with whom he had previously been in partnership, and with whom since 1906 he had been in constant litigation. The main issue of the defence was the actual existence of the woman Hardy, and the belief of prisoner in her bona fides at the time the letter was sent to prosecutor. The jury returned a verdict of guilty; and the judge, taking into consideration the four months during which prisoner had been in custody, sentenced him to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

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The King has approved of the Yeomanry and Infantry of the Territorial Force being permitted to carry standards and colours.



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